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throughout by historical acumen, a broad scholarship and the careful use of historical sources. He has preferred contemporaneous documents to second-hand information in all cases where such documents exist, and he has been enabled thus to correct many errors of less conscientious historians.

Among the most interesting portions of the work under review are those in which the social life of the people is depicted. The centre of this social life was Charleston, which, owing to the wealth early acquired by its citizens, and to their constant intercourse with England, soon became a miniature London. England was the model in all things pertaining to manners, customs and culture; the latest fashions were imported from the metropolis; public balls and concerts were given; hunting was a favorite sport much indulged in; and it was said that the people were not satisfied unless the very brick for their houses were brought from England. Advertisements of races appear in the newspapers as early as 1734; the first theatre in America was built in Charleston in 1735, where "The Orphan, a Tragedy" was played the same year; clubs, partly social, partly charitable, were organized in 1729, and the first attempt to establish a public library was made in the same city in 1698. South Carolina as a colony and as a state has always taken an acute interest in the political questions of the day, and on this department of her history Mr. McCrady has brought to bear his great store of legal learning, as well as his knowledge of English constitutional history. So much has been written of the Navigation Acts and the Stamp Act that historians generally have given an undue amount of emphasis to these laws as the principal causes of the revolution. Mr. McCrady has clearly recognized the influence of the minor abuses of the English government in bringing about rebellion—the acts of omission as well as of commission—which long continued, gradually sapped the foundations of loyalty, until, eaten out from below, rather than over-weighted from above, the structure fell. Even the old story of the struggle between the commons, the council and the governor has, under Mr. McCrady's touch, been invested with new interest, and the reader been made to feel that he is looking on at the play of giant forces which later will rend an empire and free a nation.

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Rivers of North America. A Reading Lesson for Students of Geography and Geology. By ISRAEL C. RUSSELL, LL. D., Professor of Geology, University of Michigan. Pages xv, 327. Price, \$1.75. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1898.

Earth Sculpture, or Origin of Land Forms. By JAMES GEIKIE, LL. D., D. C. L., F. R. S. Pages xiii, 397. Price, \$1.75. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1898.

From time to time books in the field of geography are noticed in the ANNALS. Attention is given to this class of literature because geography, particularly physical and economic geography, is an essential auxiliary to the study of the political and social sciences; because the institutions of government and society originate and grow in a physical environment that strongly influences their development.

The Science Series, published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons, with the editorial assistance of Professor J. McKeen Cattell, of Columbia University, and Mr. F. E. Beddard, of England, promises to contain, among its twenty-three announced volumes, several works of especial interest to students of politics and economics. In this category may safely be classed numbers three and four of the Series; number three being a volume on the "Rivers of North America," written by Professor Russell, of the University of Michigan, and number four being a work on "Earth Sculpture," by Professor James Geikie, of Edinburgh.

The "Rivers of North America" is the fourth excellent book for which students of geography are now indebted to Professor Russell. His three previous volumes dealing respectively with the lakes, the glaciers, and the volcanoes of North America, have been appreciated by students, teachers and readers generally, and his last volume, dealing with the rivers of our continent, is a work of equal merit. Professor Russell has the happy faculty of being both readable and scientific, and no one can peruse his volumes without gaining a better appreciation of the physical theatre in which American institutions are developing.

The volume on "Rivers," written "with the hope of assisting the reader both in questioning the streams and in understanding their answers," does but little in the way of describing particular streams, but has much to say concerning the way the rivers do their work and of the results of their ceaseless activity. Those who have studied the subject know that our land forms are mainly the result of the forces of denudation and that among those forces the activity of stream erosion is the most prominent.

Professor Geikie correctly says, in the preface to his book on "Earth Sculpture," that "although much has been written, especially of late years, on the origin of surface-features, yet there is no English work to which readers not skilled in geology can turn for some general account of the whole subject." Professor Geikie has succeeded very well in presenting such a general account. He studies the various land

forms, according to a very satisfactory classification, discussing the forces that have produced those forms, and telling us, in language not technical, how the surface-features of the world have come to be what they are. If the reader of Professor Geikie's book will follow it by a study of soils and their origin, and also by a study of mineral resources, he will be prepared to understand a good part of economic geology that would otherwise be unintelligible.

The student of physical and economic geography must make geology the basis of his studies, and if he has not made a systematic study of geology—as is the case with most persons—he will find in these books by Professors Russell and Geikie, the kind of geology he most needs and a very considerable share of all the geology required for the advantageous reading of geographical literature.

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German Higher Schools. The History, Organization and Methods of Secondary Education in Germany. By JAMES E. RUSSELL, Ph. D. Pp. xii, 455. Price, \$2.25. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1889.

From the perusal of this work one rises with new hope for the science of education. The scholarship displayed in this volume and the sound judgment which pervades its pages, show that superior talent and good sense are finding their way into the discussion of school problems. The author does not glorify everything abroad simply because it is foreign. He makes due account of the differences in the social and national life of the Old and the New World. Too often it is in pedagogy as in love. The girl whose home is a thousand miles away looks more attractive than the girl who lives next door; and the schools seen through the vista of three thousand miles look more perfect than the schools at home. He who reads merely to find fault, receives no encouragement from this volume. The attempt is made to show the reader how the German schools are suited to German conditions, how they adapt means and realize the ideals and ends of German life; and the temptation to point out the moral of every tale is studiously resisted. In the preparation of the volume he had the benefit of the counsel and criticism of some of the most competent educators of the fatherland. He enjoyed special privileges and courtesies as European commissioner of the New York Board of Regents and as the special agent of the United States Bureau of Education. These keys unlocked doors closed to many a visitor who lacks the credentials to secure government recognition and permission to visit the schools of Germany.